

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Kenichi Nagamine et al.

Application No.: 10/537,958

Confirmation No.: 1392

Filed: July 22, 2005

Art Unit: 1655

For: WHITENING AGENT, SKIN PREPARATION  
FOR EXTERNAL USE AND COSMETIC

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Examiner: M. L. Alonis

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated April 24, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.